



PATENT APPLICATION
Attorney Docket No. 11953.0003
#4

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: GIROUX et al

Art Unit: 2131

Serial No.: 09/736,229

Examiner: unknown

Filed: December 15, 2000

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

The undersigned hereby submits the attached form PTO 1449, as well as copies of the documents cited therein.

It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom. Consideration of the foregoing and enclosures, plus the return of the enclosed form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initial in the left-hand column (per MPEP 609), are earnestly solicited.

Applicants further direct the Examiner's attention to co-pending patent application 09/321,839, filed May 28, 1999. The Examiner is invited to review the references of record in this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is intended to be in full compliance with the Rules, but should the Examiner find any part of its required content to have been omitted, prompt

notice to the effect is earnestly solicited, along with additional time under Rule 97(f), to enable applicant to comply fully.

It is Applicants' belief that no fee for filing this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is necessary as it is being filed prior to the first Office Action in accordance with Rule 97(b)(3). If it is determined, however, that a fee for filing this IDS is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees (or credit any overpayment) to Deposit Account No. 19-4293 (Order No. 12492.0011).

Respectfully submitted,



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June 6, 2001
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09/736,229

12/15/2000

GIROUX et al.

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- Fee Transmittal Form
- Fee Attached
- Amendment / Reply
- After Final
- Affidavits/declaration(s)
- Extension of Time Request
- Express Abandonment Request
- Information Disclosure Statement
- Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
- Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

- Assignment Papers (for an Application)
- Drawing(s)
- Licensing-related Papers
- Petition
- Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address
- Terminal Disclaimer
- Request for Refund
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- After Allowance Communication to Group
- Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
- Proprietary Information
- Status Letter
- Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
PTO-1449
Copies of references listed on attached
PTO-1449

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

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or
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STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP
Scott D. Watkins, Reg. No. 36,715

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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